High-Range Scalar Helium Magnetometer (HSHM), Phase I



Completed Technology Project (2008 - 2008)

Project Introduction

This SBIR Phase I proposal describes development of a conceptual design for a High-range Scalar Helium Magnetometer (HSHM) for the field range +/-16 Gauss. The HSHM conceptual design will establish the feasibility of a model brass-board HSHM in Phase II. The HSHM instrument is capable of making scalar measurements of Earth and planetary magnetic fields over a range of +/-16 G using a digital resonance loop design already demonstrated in the Juno SHM instrument. The major HSHM design innovation is use of a new fiber-coupled laser pump-source and resonance drive. The laser pump-source permits miniaturization of the sensor unit by eliminating three helium lamps and a helium cell, as well as the resonance RF drive cables and RF resonance coils at the sensor. This innovation permits reduction of the sensor volume by a factor of 10 while decreasing sensor power and mass. The HSHM can achieve a scalar accuracy of 1 nT, and sensitivity of 5 pT/%Hz. The Phase I conceptual design will guide the design and fabrication of a brass-board HSHM model using advanced laser and digital components in Phase II. A test and calibration protocol will be developed for the HSHM calibration in Phase II.

Primary U.S. Work Locations and Key Partners





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Organizational Responsibility

Responsible Mission Directorate:

Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD)

Lead Center / Facility:

Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC)

Responsible Program:

Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Tech Transfer



Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Tech Transfer

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Organizations Performing Work	Role	Туре	Location
☆Goddard Space Flight Center(GSFC)	Lead Organization	NASA Center	Greenbelt, Maryland
Polatomic, Inc.	Supporting Organization	Industry	Richardson, Texas

Primary U.S. Work Locations	
Maryland	Texas

Project Management

Program Director:

Jason L Kessler

Program Manager:

Carlos Torrez

Principal Investigator:

Robert Slocum

Technology Areas

Primary:

TX08 Sensors and
 Instruments

 □ TX08.3 In-Situ
 Instruments and Sensors
 □ TX08.3.1 Field and
 Particle Detectors

